

State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights



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MCCR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ALVIN O. GILLARD ADDRESSES MDTA'S BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

“A Century of Black Life, History and Culture” Offers Moment to Reflect on Impact of Progress

Baltimore, MD – On Thursday, February 26, 2015, Maryland Commission on Civil Rights (MCCR) Executive Director Alvin O. Gillard was welcomed as the guest speaker at Maryland Transportation Authority's (MDTA) Black History Month Celebration, titled “A Century of Black Life, History and Culture”. In his remarks, Mr. Gillard emphasized the importance of recognizing, “the value of those efforts which have resulted in broadening the margins of who we are as a people and a community.”

“It is incumbent upon each of us who believes in opportunity, equity, and inclusion to fight through the miscellaneous and to embrace the stories of courage, selflessness, and resolve,” stated Mr. Gillard. “We cannot fall into the trap of ‘Majoring in the Minor’, and lose sight of the larger picture... [w]e have example after example of achievement, story after story of determination, and irrefutable proof that our current situations need not become our permanent realities.”

Mr. Gillard's appearance complements MCCR's continuing work to advance and promote civil rights in Maryland. Throughout February, MCCR's Education & Outreach Unit joined St. Mary's County Government, Maryland Port Authority, Howard County Department of Social Services, Catonsville Community College, and Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund to both conduct trainings and engage in meaningful dialogue regarding discrimination prevention, cultural diversity, and “Safe Spaces” workshops, to name a few.

MCCR represents the interest of the State to ensure equal opportunity for all through enforcement of Title 20 of the State Government Article and Title 19 of the State Finance & Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. MCCR investigates complaints of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and state contracts filed by members of protected classes under federal and state law. For additional information, please contact Spencer Dove at 410-767-8576 or by email at spencer.dove@maryland.gov.

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